In the claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) Process for the synthesis of monochloramine by reaction of an ammonium chloride solution with a sodium hypochlorite solution at -15° to 0°C, characterized in that the sodium hypochlorite solution is basified beforehand with an inorganic base and in that the ratio of the concentration of ~~ammonium chloride~~ total ammonia in the reaction medium to the concentration of sodium hypochlorite in the reaction medium is between 1 and 1.5.

Claim 2 (previously presented) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the ratio of the concentration of ammonium chloride in the reaction medium to the concentration of sodium hypochlorite in the reaction medium is 1.1.

Claim 3 (previously presented) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the inorganic base is chosen from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide and lithium hydroxide.

Claim 4 (previously presented) Process according to Claim 3, characterized in that the inorganic base is sodium hydroxide.

Claim 5 (previously presented) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the inorganic base is used in the form of an aqueous solution.

Claim 6 (previously presented) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the concentration of the inorganic base in the sodium hypochlorite solution is between 0.05 mol/1 and 1 mol/1.

Claim 7 (previously presented) Process according to Claim 6, characterized in that the concentration of inorganic base in the sodium hypochlorite solution is between 0.1 and 0.5 mol/1.

Claim 8 (previously presented) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the volume of the sodium hypochlorite solution used and the volume of the ammonium chloride solution used are identical.

Cancel **Claim 9.**

Claim 10 (currently amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the concentration of sodium hypochlorite in the reaction medium is between 0.5 mol/1 and 1.5 mol/1.